

Date Created:	<b>4/19/2022</b>
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Attachments:	

1 ..Title

2 A MOTION requesting the executive to develop a  
3 homeless encampment map and dashboard status report and  
4 to develop a comprehensive plan to remove homeless  
5 encampments.

6 ..Body

7 WHEREAS, on November 2, 2015, King County executive Dow Constantine and  
8 Seattle mayor Ed Murray proclaimed homelessness to be in a state of emergency in King  
9 County and the city of Seattle, and

10 WHEREAS, the number of individuals in King County experiencing  
11 homelessness is more than eleven thousand seven hundred, according to the 2020 Point-  
12 in-Time Count for Seattle and King County, and

13 WHEREAS, on December 18, 2019, King County and the city of Seattle entered  
14 into an interlocal agreement approved by the King County council and the Seattle city  
15 council creating the King County Regional Homelessness Authority to oversee a  
16 coordinated and unified response to homelessness, and

17 WHEREAS, since the creating of the King County Regional Homelessness  
18 Authority, the King County council enacted Ordinance 19179, imposing a one-tenth of  
19 one percent sales tax for construction of new affordable housing units and construction  
20 and operation of new behavioral health facilities, known as the Health Through Housing  
21 sales tax, and

22           WHEREAS, in April 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
23 provided interim guidance on people experiencing unsheltered homelessness during the  
24 COVID-19 pandemic, which in part recommends allowing "people who are living  
25 unsheltered or in encampments to remain where they are" in order to minimize the spread  
26 of infection disease, and

27           WHEREAS researchers from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at  
28 the University of Washington stated that the pandemic phase of COVID-19 is over and  
29 we are heading into an endemic phase, and

30           WHEREAS pandemic restriction including prohibitions on large gatherings,  
31 vaccine verification requirements, mask mandates and other social distancing restrictions  
32 have been lifted, and

33           WHEREAS King County has the obligation to be a good steward of the property  
34 it holds on behalf of the public and to provide safe and secure access to public spaces,  
35 and

36           WHEREAS unsanctioned homeless encampments can create public safety and  
37 health impacts to both encampment residents and the communities in which they exist,  
38 and

39           WHEREAS the council is committed to making homelessness rare, brief and one  
40 time, and

41           WHEREAS on May 30, 2022, the city of Seattle announced a new homelessness  
42 dashboard that will give a snapshot of people experiencing homelessness by  
43 neighborhood;

44           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

45           A. The council requests that the executive work with the King County sheriff's  
46 office, the department of natural resources and parks, the department of community and  
47 human services and local jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, the city of Seattle, to  
48 develop a publicly available homeless encampment map and dashboard that includes, but  
49 is not limited to, a map of known homeless encampments currently operating in King  
50 County, the approximate number of individuals residing at each location and the current  
51 list of site mitigation and removal efforts.

52           B. The executive should electronically file a homeless encampment map and  
53 dashboard status report no later than October 1, 2022, with the clerk of the council, who  
54 shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council  
55 chief of staff, the chief policy officer and the lead staff for the committee of the whole, or  
56 its successor.

57           C. Utilizing the mapping done in the homeless encampment map and dashboard  
58 requested in section A of this motion, the council requests that the executive develop a  
59 comprehensive plan to remove homeless encampments for unincorporated King County.  
60 The plan should include, but not be limited to, the following components:

- 61           1. A strategy to systematically prioritize and remove encampments while  
62 connecting residents with homelessness services, and
- 63           2. A timeline for removing all currently operating homeless encampments;
- 64           3. A strategy to prevent the reestablishment in homeless encampments;
- 65           4. Recommendations of policies that King County could implement for when  
66 and how future homeless encampments should be removed; and
- 67           5. The budget needed to carry out the plan.

68           D. The executive should coordinate with the sheriff's office, the department of  
69 natural resources and parks and the department of community and human services in the  
70 development of the plan.

71           E. The executive should electronically file the comprehensive plan to remove  
72 homeless encampments no later than October 1, 2022, with the clerk of the council, who  
73 shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers, the council  
74 chief of staff, the chief policy officer and the lead staff for the committee of the whole, or  
75 its successor. The plan should be accompanied by a proposed motion that should  
76 acknowledge receipt of the plan.